



From miner to Major: the real Sherwood Forest

Sherwood Forest's Landscape Partnership Scheme

Briefing note – August 2015

This note provides the latest information about the current status of the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) Landscape Partnership Bid for Sherwood Forest, now titled “From miner to Major”.

Which scheme are we talking about? We want Sherwood to be one of HLF's Landscape Partnership Schemes, which receive funding to conserve the UK's areas of distinctive landscape character. More information is available on [HLF's website](#).

What stage is Sherwood at? HLF run a two-stage application process for Landscape Partnerships. Our stage one bid was approved last October, so we now have an offer of £119,000 funding to support us to work up more detail (this is called the “development phase” of the project). The main funding (for the “delivery phase” of the project) will only be received if a stage two bid to HLF is successful. However, we hope that the exciting final stage of delivery of projects on the ground will start in 2017.

What's been happening recently? Our Partnership Board has been working to meet various conditions of HLF's grant offer. We've also recruited a Project Development Manager to support our development stage. This is an important milestone for the partnership as it is the first time that we've had a dedicated officer to co-ordinate the necessary research, consultation and planning.

So what's coming up next? The development stage is expected to last up until November 2016. We are looking forward to a busy period to prepare us for our stage two application and the projects that will follow on from it. Upcoming activities include:

- **Consultation** – gaining views from partners and local people. To include confirmation of our area and strategic projects whilst also seeking ideas for community-based projects for the delivery phase.
- **Ecosystems services** – we expect to support a range of projects to conserve and draw on the local environment. This project will help us to prepare by assessing the many benefits that we gain from the local environment.
- **Community archaeology framework** – we also intend to support projects that investigate cultural and built heritage. To help everyone to play a part, we have formed an advisory panel which will be providing guidance on best practice for community archaeology.
- **Match funding and consents** – we will need to secure cash and help in-kind to ensure that we can deliver our aspirations; we'll also need to check that we have all necessary permissions.

Is there more detail on the delivery stage projects? Full details haven't yet been confirmed – that's one of the things we will talk about as we develop our stage two bid. However, we expect to support projects across three main themes:

1. **Natural Heritage.** Habitat improvements through large-scale partnership projects and community-led activities. Conserving and re-creating heathland, acid grasslands and wood pasture; providing habitat "stepping stones" in the farmed landscape; increasing numbers and skills of volunteers to improve recording and future management.

2. **Built and Cultural Heritage.** Community-led investigation and conservation; inspiring a wide audience and training key people in heritage skills. Addressing needs for Buildings at Risk; archaeological and heritage assets; training of owners, volunteers and contractors.

3. **Access.** Connecting people with the real Sherwood by increasing physical access, interpretation, and the provision of events. Including circular routes, an accommodation guide, events and improved non-car access.

Community engagement will be central to all three themes, to be supported by a dedicated officer and a third party small grants scheme for projects led by local community groups and landowners.

Can I see the stage one application? Yes, this can be emailed to you as a pdf file, on request.

Who is behind the bid? The bid has been developed by a partnership under the Sherwood Forest LPS Board. Nottinghamshire County Council is the lead organisation, accepting legal and financial responsibilities, and other members of the Board at August 2015 are: Forestry Commission; Friends of Moor Pond Wood; Groundwork Creswell, Ashfield and Mansfield; Greenwood Community Forest; Natural England; Newark and Sherwood District Council; Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust; Nottingham Trent University; Rural Community Action Nottinghamshire; RSPB; Sherwood Forest Trust; Independent community representative.

Can I get involved? Yes. We will be shortly be inviting community groups to complete a short online questionnaire, which will help us in compiling a comprehensive mailing list for further information. The Project Development Manager will be coordinating a range of consultation events and activities through the development stage. If you can't wait, please feel free to forward your contact details and we'll make sure that you receive further updates direct by email.

How can I find out more?

The *minor to Major* Project Development Manager is Beki Howey who will be starting in post from 01 September. After this date, you can contact Beki as follows:

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